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National Indian Health Board NATIONAL TRIBAL COVID-19 RESPONSE

910 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE | Washington, D.C. 20003 | 202-507-4070 | www.nihb.org

The National Indian Health Board is committed to ensuring that the Tribes remain informed on COVID-19 and have the resources and assistance needed to respond to the pandemic. This newsletter will contain the latest resources, announcements and information on scheduled calls and webinars.

To view all of our resources, please be sure to visit our COVID-19 Tribal Resource Center at www.nihb.org/covid-19.

Monday, October 5, 2020

www.nihb.org/covid-19

NIHB COVID-19 Tribal Resource Center

- Funding Opportunities and Technical Assistance [Resources](#)
- Administration and Agency [Response](#)
- Community Health [Tools](#)
- Advocacy [Tools](#)
- [List](#) of Member and Partner Organizations to find regionally-specific resources
- Upcoming Calls Webinars and [Events](#)

HHS Opens Additional Tranche of Provider Relief Funding - Applications Due November 6, 2020

On Thursday October 1, the [US Department of Health and Human Services](#) (HHS) announced their decision to allocate an additional \$20 billion dollars in funding from the Provider Relief Fund. This new Phase 3 General Distribution will be open to providers who have already received general distribution funding, including those





2020 NATIONAL TRIBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

JOIN OUR VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

- LISTENING SESSIONS & CONSULTATIONS -- NO COST!
- PLENARY SESSIONS FEATURING AGENCY & TRIBAL LEADERS
- BREAKOUT SESSIONS ON COVID-19, BEHAVIORAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH
- REDUCED REGISTRATION FEE

REGISTER TODAY!

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VIRTUAL
OCTOBER 13-16

who have already received 2% of annual revenue that they get from patient care. Providers who have already received 2% of annual revenue are invited to submit additional information to become eligible for an additional payment. HHS will begin accepting applications on Monday, October 5th and the due date for submission is November 6, 2020. For more information, please visit this [link](#).

Call & Webinar Announcements

Indigenous Connectivity Summit (Virtual), October 5 - October 9, 2020

The Indigenous Connectivity Summit brings together community network managers and operators, Indigenous-owned Internet service providers, community members, researchers, policy makers and Indigenous leaders. The Summit provides practical, hands-on training to help Indigenous communities connect to the Internet to and creates opportunities to build relationships and share useful knowledge and experience.



October 5 – 9, 2020
[Register for the Summit](#)

Native American Finance Officers Association Virtual 2020 Fall Conference, October 5-9, 2020

The **Native American Finance Officers Association** is hosting its fall conference as a virtual event. Preview the agenda [here](#).

October 5 - 9, 2020
[Register for the Conference](#)



HRSA Rapid Listening Session with Tribal Leaders, October 7, 2020

The **Health Resources and Services Administration** (HRSA), administers the 340B Drug Pricing Program (340B Program), which allows certain safety-net health care providers, specified in statute, to obtain discounts on covered outpatient drugs from drug manufacturers. Some of these safety-net health care providers, known as covered entities, include Urban Indian Organizations, Federal Qualified Health Centers, AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, and individual disproportionate share hospitals. Manufacturers participating in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program agree to charge covered entities a price that will not exceed the amount determined under the statute (ceiling price) when selling covered outpatient drugs to covered entities. Covered entities receive these drugs at significantly reduced prices.

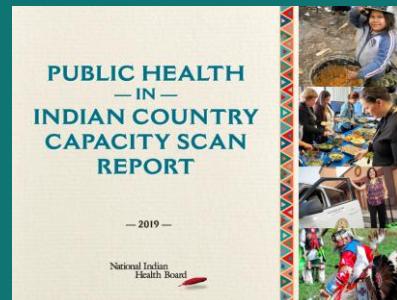


HRSA has received correspondence from Tribal Leaders regarding pharmaceutical manufacturers' recent actions to limit covered entities' access to 340B drugs. Due to these concerns, HRSA will convene a Rapid Listening Session with Tribal Leaders on the 340B Program on Wednesday, October 7 from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET.

Wednesday, October 7, 2020
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Eastern Time
Conference number: 800-857-5137
Participant passcode: 2840899

NIHB Webinar: Public Health in Indian Country Capacity Scan Report: A Foundation for Change, Thursday, October 8

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear that Tribes need support and guidance to strengthen their public health infrastructure. The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) is honored to offer Indian Country a new tool to help inform this work -- the [Public Health in Indian Country Capacity Scan](#) (PHICCS) 2019 Report. The PHICCS report captured valuable insight from Tribes and Tribal organizations on the state of Tribal public health infrastructure, governance, activities, services, workforce, needs, and priorities. Join NIHB for a webinar to learn more about how the PHICCS report can support your important work.



Thursday, October 8
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Eastern Time
[Register for the Webinar](#)

National Indian Education Association Virtual Convention and Trade Show, October 7 - 9, 2020

The [National Indian Education Association](#) (NIEA) has transitioned the 51st Annual NIEA Convention to a virtual experience. The 2020 NIEA Convention theme, "Achieving Educational Equity Through Classroom, School, and Community Transformation" recognizes that, through collective efforts, the educational experience can be transformed for Native students and create true equity in classrooms, school districts and communities. The Virtual Convention and Trade Show will include innovative participatory workshops, research presentations, poster sessions, and keynote addresses by prominent educators and advocates.



October 7 - 9, 2020
[Register for the Convention and Trade Show](#)

Announcements

FEMA Opens \$600 Million Grant Process

The Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) opened applications on September 30, 2020 for two hazard mitigation grant programs totaling \$660 million. The two grant programs, the Flood Mitigation Assistance grant and the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant, or BRIC, will provide funds to states, local communities, Tribes and territories for eligible mitigation activities. These programs allow for funding to be used on projects that will reduce future disaster losses and strengthen our nation's ability to build a culture of preparedness.



FEMA

Both grant applications are open from Sept. 30 to Jan. 21, 2021. Eligible applicants must apply for funding using the new FEMA Grants Outcome (FEMA GO). Applications received by FEMA after this deadline will not be considered for funding.

New Volume: How COVID-19 Exacerbates Educational Inequities Among Children

The Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) recently published a new volume of *Statement of the Evidence* briefs examining the impact of systemic racism and potential exacerbating effects of COVID-19 on racial-ethnic minority and LGBTQ+ children and youth. American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children are already at risk for low levels of school achievement, now they are further threatened with school closures, limited access to broadband services and technology, inadequate access to nutritious food and dedicated space to study in the home. Low-quality education and health care for AI/AN youth worsens the negative impact of COVID-19. [Read more here.](#)

NIHB Tribal Infection Control Advisory Committee

NIHB is forming an advisory committee to help inform and guide its new Tribal Infection Control (TIC) project, formally titled *Project Firstline: Tribal Infection Prevent and Control Capacity Building Program*. The project is funded by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and the purpose of the project is to provide infection prevention and control (IPC) training and technical assistance to Tribal health officials and Tribal health systems. The project will include developing and implementing a training program for Tribal health professionals as well as developing a mentorship program between infection control professionals and Tribal health officials. The advisory committee will assist with reviewing and advising on program materials and provide advisory for developing and implementing the TIC projects. NIHB invites those interested in becoming a member of the advisory committee to please contact Carmen Sanders at csanders@nihb.org for more information and an application.



NIHB Leads Efforts on Joint Letter to Congress Opposing Policy Changes to Medicaid FMAP

Tribal Nations and organizations encouraged to send their own letter - template available!

On July 27, the [National Indian Health Board](#) (NIHB) sent a joint letter to Congress firmly opposing any policy that would undo decades of precedent in federal Medicaid policy towards Tribal Nations by extending 100% Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) to States for Medicaid services rendered by providers outside the Indian health system to American Indians/Alaska Natives. This policy would seek to stabilize state Medicaid programs at the direct expense of the Indian health system, and runs contrary to federal trust and treaty obligations.



NIHB was joined by Tribal Nations, [National Congress of American Indians](#), [National Council of Urban Indian Health](#), and multiple regional Tribal organizations in this important advocacy. NIHB encourages all Tribal Nations and organizations to join us in showing that Indian Country is uniformly opposed to this provision by sending similar letters. Please find this [template letter](#) on NIHB's Tribal COVID-19 Resource Center. Read the joint letter [here](#).

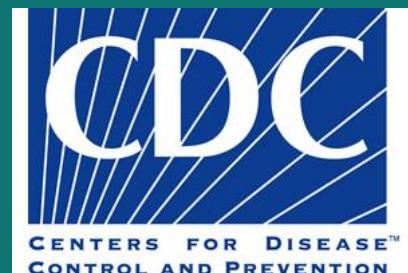
U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$40 Million to Address Rural Healthcare Workforce Shortages

Application due Friday, November 13, 2020 at 4:00 PM ET

On September 15, 2020, the U.S. Department of Labor announced the availability of \$40 million in funding for the Rural Healthcare Grant Program to address rural healthcare workforce shortages in communities across the country. American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Tribal governments and AI/AN program entities are eligible to apply. Read the full announcement [here](#) and apply [here](#).

Serious Adverse Health Events Associated with Methanol-based Hand Sanitizers

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) issued the following Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory on July 5, 2020. On June 19, 2020, the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) advised consumers not to use any hand sanitizer manufactured by “Eskbiochem SA de CV” in Mexico, due to the potential presence of methanol, a “toxic alcohol”, as an active ingredient, which can cause blindness and/or death when absorbed through the skin or when swallowed. Since then, [FDA](#) has identified additional ABHSR products that contain methanol and is working with manufacturers and distributors on a voluntary recall of these products. [Read more](#).



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Visit the NIHB COVID-19 Tribal Resource Center at www.nihb.org/covid-19.
Reach the NIHB COVID-19 Response Team, contact CWheeler@nihb.org

For media inquiries, contact April Hale at AHale@nihb.org

